WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Uranium Crunch

†2172. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our country is facing the uranium crunch and it is likely to ffect the atomic reactors;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government has failed to utilize accumulated uranium depository fully;

(c) if so, whether Government is formulating any effective scheme for production of uranium from depositories in the country and its proper utilization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Of the total currently installed nuclear power capacity of 4120 MWe, 3800 MWe capacity uses indigenous natural uranium, in which there is a mismatch in demand and supply. The remaining capacity of 320 MWe (TAPS 1&2) uses imported low enriched uranium of which there is no shortage.

(b) No, Sir. Government has not failed to utilize the uranium reserves of our country. Construction of new mining projects has been taken up to match the requirement at the earliest.

(c) and (d) Construction of new mines and process plants and pre-project activities at a few new locations are progressing despite some delays. The projects continuing from X Plan and undertaken during XI plan are as follows:

Name of the project	District	State
Uranium Ore Milling Project at Turamdih	East Singhbhum	Jharkhand
Uranium Ore Mining Project at Bagjata	East Singhbhum	Jharkhand
Uranium Ore Mining Project at Banduhurang	East Singhbhum	Jharkhand
Enhancement of capacity of Turamdih Mine	East Singhbhum	Jharkhand
Expansion of Jaduguda and Turamdih Mills	East Singhbhum	Jharkhand
Uranium Ore Mining Project at Mohuldih	Seraikela Kharswan	Jharkhand
Uranium Ore Mining and Processing Project at Tummalapalle	Kadapah	Andhra Pradesh
Kylleng Pyndengsohiong Uranium Mining & Milling Project at Mawthabah	West Khasi Hills	Meghalaya
Uranium Ore Mining and Milling Project at Lambapur	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh
Uranium Project at Gogi	Gulbarga	Karnataka
Exploratory Mining of Uranium Deposits	In different parts of the country	

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.